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ALLEMAGNE

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Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°./Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°.

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Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire
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COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

☒ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☒ abstract

☒ title

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

5

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 10 7501

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X ✓	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1997, no. 01, 31 January 1997 (1997-01-31) & JP 08 242025 A (HITACHI METALS LTD), 17 September 1996 (1996-09-17)	1, 2, 4, 9, 10	H01L41/083 H01L41/047
A ✓	* abstract * -& JP 08 242025 A (HITACHI METALS LTD) 17 September 1996 (1996-09-17) * paragraph '0027! - paragraph '0032!; figures 7-10 *	5, 6	
X ✓	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 016, no. 291 (E-1224), 26 June 1992 (1992-06-26) -& JP 04 076969 A (NEC CORP), 11 March 1992 (1992-03-11) * abstract *	1-3, 9, 10	
A ✓	US 5 523 645 A (INOI TAKAYUKI) 4 June 1996 (1996-06-04) * column 4, line 3 - line 56; figure 3 *	1-3, 9, 10	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
A ✓	US 5 438 232 A (INOUE JIRO ET AL) 1 August 1995 (1995-08-01) * column 4, line 47 - column 6, line 25; figures 3, 4 *	1, 2, 4, 5	H01L
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 5 September 2001	Examiner Köpf, C
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document		T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date O: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 01 10 7501

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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05-09-2001

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